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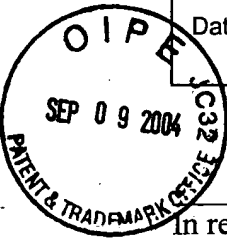
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EV 470 626 849 US to the Commissioner for Patents, MS: AMENDMENT, P.O. BOX 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: September 9, 2004

Signature: *[Signature]*

LILIA OLSEN

Docket No.: 416272061200
(PATENT)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Vicki L. CHANDLER et al.

Application No.: 09/972,805

Group Art Unit: 1638

Filed: October 5, 2001

Examiner: A. Mehta

For: GENETIC FUNCTIONS REQUIRED FOR
GENE SILENCING IN MAIZE

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Box Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 9, 2004 (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 6032004), for which a response is due on September 9, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 20 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [00041] as follows:

--Figure 6 A-B shows the amounts of transcripts in *Mop1-1* versus Wild-Type Siblings. (A) An example of RNase protections for *bl*, *pl1* and actin on four sibling individuals is shown. All individuals are homozygous *B'* and *Pl'*, and segregating for *Mop1-1* as indicated. (B) The bar graph shows the normalized amounts of *bl* (open bars) and *pl1* (closed bars) RNA levels from the RNase protection.--

Please amend paragraph [00059] as follows:

--Figure 24 (Families one through nine) shows the segregation of B-I phenotypes among progeny of gl2 B-I wt x Mop2-1 B'. B' individuals heterozygous for Mop2-1 were crossed to B-I and progeny were scored for sheath and tassel pigment levels. A color score of 1-3 is typical of a B' individual, and 6-7 is typical of a B-I individual. The distribution of color scores among progeny from nine B' individuals heterozygous for the Mop2-1 mutation crossed to B-I are shown graphically. Some families show a clear bimodal distribution whereas others have a higher frequency of intermediate individuals.--